

Congregational Update: Director of Church Music Position

Over the past several years, our congregation has been blessed with remarkable growth. As we continue reaching more people with the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our Worship & Music Committee, Personnel Committee, and Church Council have been prayerfully discerning how best to support and strengthen our music ministry for the future. After much conversation and planning, we have created a new position: **Director of Church Music**. This position has now been posted, and we hope to begin interviewing candidates soon.

When our current accompanist was hired, it was with the clear understanding that the role was temporary until finances allowed us to expand into a more comprehensive music leadership position. The long-term vision has always included responsibilities such as accompaniment at all worship services, development of additional choirs, training and scheduling of musicians and vocalists, care of our organ, pianos, and music library, and overall leadership of both internal and external music offerings at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church.

This transition has been **gradual, thoughtful, and prayerful**—a process unfolding over several years, not a sudden decision. When the Worship & Music Committee brought forward the request last year, the goal was, and remains, to nurture the future of our music ministry. The Church Council approved funding for a part-time Director of Church Music beginning in 2026, which was included in the 2026 budget passed at our congregational meeting in January.

It is important to emphasize that **this step is not about replacing someone**. It is about strengthening, coordinating, and expanding our music ministry so it can flourish for years to come. We hope to add leadership and opportunities—such as an adult choir—that support all generations while continuing to honor the traditions and musicianship that mean so much to our church family.

We are deeply grateful for the dedication and care our current accompanist brings to worship. We have been in open and respectful conversation with her throughout this evolving vision. She understands the direction we are moving and has been warmly invited to apply for the new position if she feels called to do so.

We ask for your prayers as we take this next faithful step in supporting the musical life of our congregation and the mission God has entrusted to us.